

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01

H-02 /049 W

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O R 201126Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6205

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSMACHTAI BANGKOK TH

CINCPAC PA LNO BANGKOK TH

SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 11925

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: FORCE REDUCTIONS IN THAILAND

REF: (A) STATE 143936

(B) BANGKOK 11924

1. AS BEST WE CAN FIGURE OUT HERE, DISPARITIES BETWEEN PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THAI SUPREME COMMAND AND PRESS RELEASE PROPOSED BY DOD ARE A) DOD PRESS RELEASE REFERS TO DISESTABLISHMENT OF 13TH ADVON, WHEREAS THAI RELEASE DOES NOT; B) DOD RELEASE DOES NOT REFER TO DISESTABLISHMENT OF TLD, WHEREAS THAI RELEASE DOES; C) DOD RELEASE ASSOCIATES SPECIFIC REDUCTIONS IN PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION WITH VARIOUS TYPES OF AIRCRAFT WITHDRAWALS, WHEREAS THAI RELEASE DOES NOT; D) DOD RELEASE MAKES NO REFERENCE TO FUTURE FORCE REDUCTION DISCUSSIONS, WHEREAS THAI RELEASE DOES.

2. ON POINT A) ABOVE, FOR REASONS SET FORTH REF B, DOD ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD NOT RPT NOT MAKE
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REFERENCE TO DISESTABLISHMENT 13TH ADVON, SINCE

THIS WILL INEVITABLY LEAD TO QUESTION AS TO WHAT
WILL REPLACE IT. THAI ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO
ANY PUBLICITY CONCERNING 17TH AIR DIVISION.

3. ON POINT B) ABOVE, WE DO NOT KNOW WHY WASHINGTON
VERSION OF PRESS RELEASE OMITTS DISESTABLISHMENT OF
TLD, SINCE TLD'S APPROXIMATELY 400 SPACES ARE
NEEDED TO MAKE UP THE 4,000-SLOT BALANCE REQUIRED
TO COMPLETE THE 7,500-SPACE DRAWDOWN. RECOMMEND
WASHINGTON ANNOUNCEMENT INCLUDE MENTION OF DISESTABLISH-
MENT OF TLD.

4. ON POINT C) ABOVE, WE THINK IT BEST NOT TO GIVE
DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF NUMBERS. WE HAVE NOT DONE SO
IN PAST DRAWDOWN RELEASES, AND DOING SO MERELY OPENS
WAY TO NUMBERS GAME.

5. ON POINT D) ABOVE, AS WE HAVE POINTED OUT, THAI
TEXT IS BASED ON DRAFT WE PROPOSED TO SUPREME COMMAND.
THIS DRAFT REPRESENTED EFFORT TO ANTICIPATE AND
PREEMPT WHAT THAI WOULD PROBABLY HAVE PRODUCED THEM-
SELVES IN ABSENCE OF SUGGESTION FROM US. IT IS
IMPORTANT TO RTG FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL PURPOSES THAT
THERE BE APPEARANCE OF CONTINUING CONSULTATION TOWARD
FORCE REDUCTIONS. WE USED MOST NON-COMMITTAL
FORMULATION THAT APPEARED SALABLE.

6. WHILE OUR PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR DOD TO ISSUE
STATEMENT IDENTICAL WITH THAT PUT OUT BY THAI, WE
WOULD NOT CONSIDER IT SERIOUSLY DAMAGING IF THERE
WERE SOME VARIATIONS. MAIN POINT (SEE REF B) IS
THAT THERE BE NO MENTION OF 13TH ADVON-17TH AIR
DIVISION. (SEE REF 3 ON THIS SUBJECT).
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